

**Whispers of the Nasty Ghost**  
**A film idea by Jonathan D. Steinhoff © 5.23.09**

It all begins as an innocent tale. **Roger's** wife, **Jane**, dies in the kind of freak accident you only expect to happen to evil people in movies. **Roger** eventually remarries, but being the bastard that he is, he treats his new wife, **Mary**, in a rotten way, acting nasty, etc., etc. Every now and then he falls into a reverie thinking of his deceased wife, **Jane**, exaggerating in his mind to the extreme how angelic she was.

Suddenly, one day, **Jane** appears before **Roger** as a ghost, seeming just as angelic as how he remembers her in his reveries. **Jane** tells **Roger** he has to be nice to **Mary**, that it is wrong for him to be so nasty to her, that he is only doing it out of grief for her, **Jane**. **Roger** tries to argue that he's always been that way, he always behaves like a mean-spirited bastard, which is true, but **Jane** won't hear it. And so **Roger** makes an effort to treat **Mary** nicely.

Unbeknownst to **Roger**, **Mary** had become so displeased with him that she was considering leaving him.

Unbeknownst to **Mary**, she is about to come into a fabulous sum of money. **Jane**, on the other hand, is aware of this. In fact, **Jane** is also aware that **Mary** had been considering leaving **Roger** (ghosts have special vantage points). Furthermore, if **Mary** were to leave **Roger**, not only would **Roger** see none of the fabulous sum of money, there is another person who would also be left out.

**Marc**, **Roger's** friend, is always trying to interest **Roger** in one complex, sleazy business deal after another. In each case, the deals **Marc** has in mind are all secretly designed to leave **Marc** with all the money while making **Roger** broke. **Marc** is not really as much of a friend to **Roger** as **Roger** might think.

Oh yes, and **Marc** is the man **Jane** was having an affair with behind **Roger's** back at the time of her death. **Jane's** actual intention in making things work out between **Roger** and **Mary** is that **Marc** might ultimately lay his hands on **Mary's** money through **Roger**, and thus cheat **Roger** and **Mary** out of everything. That's how much **Jane** still loves **Marc**.

**Bill** and **Alan**, **Mary's** two sleazy brothers, are also aware of the fabulous sum of money coming **Mary's** way, and so have devoted their full attention to handling **Mary**. When **Mary** is diagnosed with cancer, **Bill** and **Alan** are somehow able to keep it from her - their handling of things surrounding **Mary** is in very high gear. And they are only too aware that if **Mary** doesn't leave **Roger**, they don't get any of the money when **Mary** dies, only **Roger** gets it, because **Mary** does not care for her sleazy brothers. **Mary's** a nice sort of person.

At some point **Bill** and **Alan** accidentally overhear a conversation between **Roger** and **Jane**, thereby becoming aware that there's a ghost trying to smooth things over between **Roger** and **Mary**, which would ruin everything for them. So they secretly set out to convince **Roger** it isn't a real ghost, rather, it's just a lot of electronic hocus pocus devised by **Mary** to get **Roger** to behave nicely - a grand scheme **Mary** came up with to trick **Roger** into not being such a nasty, mean-spirited bastard. **Bill** and **Alan** plant little things that would suggest it's all a lot of technological visual and audio effects, making sure **Roger** discovers these "clues".

As **Roger** gradually becomes convinced he never saw the ghost of his dead wife **Jane**, he reverts back to being his old self, acting nasty towards **Mary** again, refusing to go on errands, talking abusively, etc. This intensifies **Jane's** efforts to make abundantly clear to **Roger** that she truly is a ghost, and that he really must behave nicely towards **Mary**. These efforts by **Jane**, which initially trigger skepticism by **Roger**, are too convincing to ignore, it being that **Jane** really is a ghost and so has ghostly powers. This requires **Bill** and **Alan** to intensify their efforts, and so the

escalation builds and builds, pushing **Roger** into deeper and deeper confusion. This confusion manifests in his behavior towards **Mary**, which shifts erratically between bastard behavior and nice guy behavior.

Suddenly, the thing behind **Mary** receiving the fabulous sum of money falls through, it never happens. **Mary** then learns she has cancer, gets treatment, and the cancer goes into remission.

Meanwhile, **Marc** finds a new girlfriend, causing **Jane** to lose her motivation to improve **Marc's** situation. Instead, **Jane** deliberately facilitates **Marc's** death by making a ghostly appearance in front of his car at a critical moment, causing a fatal car accident. **Marc** becomes a ghost, who immediately finds himself being scolded by **Jane** for his infidelity, which **Marc** tries to defend as having something to do with the fact that **Jane** was dead so how can she say he was being unfaithful? **Jane** does not care about **Marc's** excuse.

**Bill** and **Alan** exit **Mary's** life, now that they have no motivation to be part of it.

And **Roger**, now in a permanent state of confusion regarding whether or not he really saw the ghost of his dead angelic wife wanting him to be nice to **Mary**, or if it was just electronic hocus pocus, tends to keep catching himself before behaving towards **Mary** like a bastard. This works for **Mary**, and so they live this way ever after.

**The End**